moderate somewhat from very high growth rate in the last 3 years but remain sufficiently high this year generating new employment opportunities. Further, 3.24 crore households have been provided employment under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act as on 15.12.2008 in the current financial year. Year-wise and category-wise estimates of employment for the period 2008-10 are not available. The steps taken specifically for labour intensive industries among others include: providing interest subvention of 2% for pre and post shipment credit for industries like textiles, handlooms, handicrafts, gems and jewellery, and marine products upto 31.3.2009; refinance facility of Rs. 7000 crore for Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) by RBI to support micro, small and medium enterprises; reduction of rate of central excise duty on cotton textiles and textile articles from 4% to Nil; and Inclusion of all items of handicrafts under 'Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana.'

**Loss to Air India due to overbooking**

†*312. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount being realised by Government on account of overbooking of tickets by Air India and the amount paid in the form of compensation to passengers each year from the year 2005 to October, 2008;

(b) whether a review of the losses incurred is made by Government every year; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to contain the losses being incurred on account of overbooking since 2005?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No income is earned on account of overbooking. However, revenues are optimized by overbooking of flights. The details of Denied Boarding Compensation paid by Air India are as under:

| Year | Compensation Paid (Rs. Crores) |
|---|---|
| 2005-06 | 11.57 |
| 2006-07 | 06.77 |
| 2007-08 | 05.08 |
| April/October 2008 | yet to be compiled |

(b) and (c) While boarding compensation being part of the revenue optimization objective of the airline, can not be considered as losses. The booking of tickets is done through a dynamic computerized system capable of monitoring and taking corrective measure.

**Poor in-flight services in Air India**

*313. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.